



## **Office of Mayor Jerry Sanders**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 13, 2007

### **Mayor Sanders Makes Several Nominations to the Balboa Park Committee**

San Diego – Mayor Jerry Sanders has nominated Jennifer Ayala, Mick Hager, David Kinney, Mike McDowell and Patti Roscoe for appointment to the Balboa Park Committee. He also nominated for reappointment seated Committee Members Vicki Granowitz, Paul Rucci, Sungill Kim, Donald Steele, Laurie Burgett, and Michael Singleton to the Balboa Park Committee. These appointments require City Council approval.

**Jennifer Ayala, AIA** is an Architect and principal of the M.W. Steele Group Inc. where she specializes in urban design and land use planning. Ms. Ayala is a LEED Accredited Professional and holds a specific interest in conservation and environmentally conscious building and construction. In her time as a resident of San Diego she has had an opportunity to live on 3 of the 4 sides of Balboa Park and as a Downtown resident, the Park serves as her family's backyard. Ms. Ayala has been a member of the Centre City Advisory Committee (CCAC) since 2003 and will serve in the Balboa Park Committee seat designated for a representative of the Downtown Community Planning Group, replacing Joyce Summer in this capacity.

**Michael “Mick” Hager Ph.D.** is the President and Chief Executive Officer of the San Diego Natural History Museum. Dr. Hager holds an academic specialty is paleontology and an administrative specialty is strategic planning and development and has been in the museum profession since 1965. He was a Professor of Geology at Augustana College (1973-78), the Director of the Museum of the Rockies (1978-89), Director of the Virginia Museum of Natural History (1989-91). He is also the Executive Producer of [\*Ocean Oasis\*](#), a large format film about Baja California and he sits on the board of the New Americans Immigration Museum. Dr. Hager will replace Dr. Jeffery Kirsch of the Ruben H. Fleet Science Center as the “Large Institution” representative on the Committee.

**David Kinney** is the Executive Director of the House of Hospitality Association a post he has held since 1997. Mr. Kinney has worked in Balboa Park for 23 years including 14 years of service at the Museum of Photographic Arts. Mr. Kinney has developed the House of

Hospitality into the leading organization for marketing the park and coordinating collaborations. He facilitates the Central Balboa Park Assembly, serves on the Land Use subcommittee of the Balboa Park Committee, the steering committee of the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership and was appointed to the newly formed Balboa Park Ad Hoc group of park leaders. Mr. Kinney will replace Ms. Nancy Rodriguez from the Centro Cultural de la Raza as the “Small-Medium Institution” representative on the Committee.

**Mike McDowell** is Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the San Diego Lodging Industry Association, an organization that advocates on behalf of the local lodging and tourism industries. In the course of his 30-plus year career in the hospitality industry, Mr. McDowell has worked in the front and back of-the-house, in front-line and management positions in upscale dining, multi-unit fast food, catering, hotel sales and operations, as well as having founded a successful hospitality marketing company. A California native and San Diegan since 1977, Mr. McDowell has a long-standing devotion to Balboa Park and presently serves as the Vice President of the House of Hospitality Association Board of Directors. In addition, he is a member of the Board of the San Diego County Taxpayers Association, where he serves on the Executive Committee and as an ex-officio member of the Board of the San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau.

**Patti Roscoe** is Chair of PRA Destination Management, Inc. the company she founded in 1981, to provide corporate and convention planners with a complete range of destination services. PRA has nineteen offices in the United States, has marketing liaisons in Europe, Mexico, and Central America and will soon open offices in Canada. She is the recipient of the [San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau's](#) Lifetime Achievement Award. She was named by Working Woman Magazine as one of nation's top 500 women-business owners and was instrumental in the development of San Diego State University's four-year degree program in Hospitality and Tourism Management.

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